

House Health Policy Committee
Testimony in Support of House Bill 5668

Lisa Rutter, Founder, President No Nuts Moms
Group

NO NUTS MOMS GROUP

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My name is Lisa Rutter and I am the mother of two boys. I am also the Founder of a group called NNMG, which started in MI and now has spread throughout the United States as well as Australia, Canada and the UK. Everyone in these groups are mothers and fathers of children with life threatening food allergies.

My son, Evan is six years old and he was diagnosed with an allergy to peanuts and tree nuts when he was three years old. Prior to knowing he had food allergies, we didn't have epinephrine on us and there were times we may have needed this life saving medicine. Thankfully we got lucky and Evan was fine and now because of all of our newfound awareness and knowledge my family is prepared for a possible severe reaction at anytime or anywhere.

Unfortunately, not everyone is prepared or has the knowledge of the severity of food allergies. Food allergies can develop at any time and at any age and if someone is experiencing a life threatening reaction known as anaphylaxis, seconds matter.

Epinephrine is the only medication that can treat anaphylaxis, but it has to be administered as soon as possible. The medication is very simple to use. (I can demonstrate)

Not using this life saving medication when it is needed can result in tragedy.

That's why parents like me and the members of my organization are so excited about Representative Lyons' legislation. It would give individuals who run public establishments the opportunity-- if they want it-- to stock a simple, safe, treatment that could one day make all the difference in the world for a child like mine.

I hope you will give them that opportunity and pass this important legislation. Thank you.